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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of: PAGANO, M.

Group Art Unit: 1642

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Application No.: 10/042,417

Filed: January 7, 2002

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Presumed Examiner: Canella, Karen A.

Attorney Docket No.: 5914-090

For: METHODS TO IDENTIFY COMPOUNDS

USEFUL FOR THE TREATMENT OF

PROLIFERATIVE AND

DIFFERENTIATIVE DISORDERS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO SPECIES ELECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Election Requirement dated October 22, 2002, and in accordance with the Rules of Practice, please enter and consider the following preliminary amendments, election, and remarks.

Applicant submits concurrently herewith: (a) Appendix A, which contains the marked-up claims, and (b) Appendix B, which contains a clean copy of the pending claims.

IN THE CLAIMS

A marked-up version of Claims 1, 4, and 7 showing the amendments is attached hereto as Appendix A. Matter that has been deleted is indicated by brackets. Matter that has been inserted is underlined.

Please amend Claims 1, 4, and 7 as follows:

A method for screening compounds useful for the treatment of proliferative and differentiative disorders comprising contacting a compound with a cell or a cell extract expressing Cks1 and Skp2 or Cks1 p27 and Skp2, and detecting a change in the activity of Skp2.

Andy